

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE A-1

WASHINGTON POST  
9 August 1984

# Salvadoran Aid Voted By Senate

## Supplemental Bill Wins Approval, Goes to Conference

By Helen Dewar  
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Republican-controlled Senate voted overwhelmingly yesterday to approve \$117 million in additional military aid for El Salvador this year that was requested by President Reagan and rejected by the Democratic-controlled House.

Approval of the funds came on a vote of 69 to 29 against a move by Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) to delete the entire request from a \$6.8 billion supplemental appropriations bill for the rest of the current fiscal year ending Oct. 1.

The bill, including the El Salvador aid, was approved shortly after midnight on a vote of 62 to 32. It now goes to conference with the House amid strong pressure for compromise in light of Congress' plans to recess today or Friday for the Republican National Convention.

Although the House rejected all additional arms funding for El Salvador, "the administration thinks it can hold some funding for El Salvador in conference," said a Senate Republican leadership aide.

At the same time yesterday, the administration revealed new captured documents and aerial intelligence films that officials say bolster its case that Nicaragua is supplying arms to the guerrillas in El Salvador. Gen. Paul F. Gorman outlined four cases of the movement of materiel into El Salvador.

The Senate also rejected by a vote of 62 to 37 a proposal by Sen. Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.) to

slash Reagan's total request of \$1 billion in additional foreign aid by more than one-third to keep the spending within levels already authorized by Congress.

The \$386 million cut proposed by Dodd would have come from funds designated for Central America, although Dodd would have permitted \$25.3 million in extra military aid for El Salvador for the remaining two months of the fiscal year, reflecting the current rate of spending for arms to that country.

Pressure is strong for pre-recess action on the entire measure because it includes money for food stamps and other politically sensitive government benefits after current funding for the programs runs out in a couple of weeks. Wary of possible obstacles that could delay the recess, the House has prepared a stripped-down bill for food stamps only, although the Senate, eager to retain the foreign aid provisions, has indicated it would not consider such a move.

Both Senate and House versions of the measure, which the White House has complained are too expensive in their domestic outlays, also include a variety of election-year baubles attached by Appropriations Committee members.

These range from a House proposal promoted by Californians to refurbish Franklin D. Roosevelt's old presidential yacht, now berthed in Oakland, to a proposal advanced by Mississippi's senators, both of whom sit on that chamber's Appropriations Committee, to create an Institute for Technology Development in their state.

Each house salted away money on politically sensitive issues, ranging from \$50 million from the Senate to combat asbestos in schools to \$150 million from the House to initiate a homeownership-assistance program for low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.

Although the Republican Senate normally portrays itself as more frugal than the Democratic House, the Senate raised the ante on several social welfare issues, including doubling to \$120 million the House outlay for emergency food and shelter, a program that started as a temporary relief effort during the recent recession.

The proposal, made by Sen. Alan J. Dixon (D-Ill.), passed 58 to 40, with one-third of the Republicans supporting it. The Senate also included \$353 million for low-income student assistance that the House passed over.

The Senate bill, unlike the House measure, includes a provision that would delay a recent ruling by the Federal Communications Commission to increase the number of television stations that can be owned by a single company.

In debate over El Salvador funding, Inouye, who was instrumental in arranging a bipartisan compromise earlier in the year that increased military aid to that country to \$126.5 million, contended that further aid is unnecessary and could undermine efforts to reform El Salvador's military operations.

"They're not running out of supplies . . . In fact, there are millions of dollars in the pipeline," he contended. And by providing aid "under any circumstances," he added, the United States is telling the El Salvadoran military they don't have to change their ways.

"Sometimes we may do more harm by being overly generous . . . and I think this is one of those times," Inouye said.

Sen. Robert W. Kasten Jr. (R-Wis.), chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations, responded that the money is needed and argued that reforms instituted under President Jose Napoleon Duarte are bearing fruit in many ways, including cessation of death squad activity.

"Just what reforms are we taking about that he hasn't delivered on?" asked Sen. J. Bennett Johnston (D-La.) in supporting the aid request, which he said was "very, very modest . . . certainly [when] compared to what it would cost to pick up the pieces if the Salvadorans lost the war."

In debate over Dodd's proposal, Dodd said the Senate was trying to put "the cart before the horse" in voting to spend money for programs it never authorized. He was referring to programs proposed by the Kissinger Commission on Cen-

Continued